

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 **Claim 1 (original):** A refrigerator comprising:
2 a cabinet;
3 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
4 having a door;
5 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet;
6 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated
7 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;
8 a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment
9 for airflow communication with the second refrigerated
10 compartment;
11 a damper movable between an open position and a closed
12 position for controlling airflow within the duct;
13 a refrigeration apparatus having a refrigeration cycle
14 being measured from a first starting of the refrigeration
15 apparatus to a second consecutive starting of the
16 refrigeration apparatus, and an off cycle being a time
17 within said refrigeration cycle during which the
18 refrigeration apparatus is not operating;
19 a controller for controlling the damper; and
20 a door sensor connected to the controller for
21 detecting when the door is open;

22 wherein if the controller determines that the door has
23 remained closed for a set number of refrigeration cycles,
24 the controller maintains the damper in the closed position
25 during a subsequent consecutive off cycle.

1 **Claim 2 (original):** The refrigerator of claim 1,
2 wherein the refrigeration apparatus is a compressor.

1 **Claim 3 (original):** The refrigerator of claim 1,
2 wherein the set number of refrigeration cycles is three.

1 **Claim 4 (original):** The refrigerator of claim 1,
2 wherein the set number of refrigeration cycles is one.

1 **Claim 5 (previously presented):** An apparatus for
2 controlling airflow between compartments in a two
3 compartment refrigerator having a door, the apparatus
4 comprising:

5 a damper for opening and closing a duct between the
6 two compartments of the refrigerator;

7 a controller for controlling the opening and closing
8 of the damper; and

9 a door sensor connected to the controller for
10 detecting when the door is open;

11 wherein if the controller determines that the door has
12 remained closed for a set period, the controller closes

13 and/or maintains the damper in the closed position during
14 a subsequent operation of a refrigeration apparatus.

1 **Claim 6 (original):** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein
2 the two compartments comprise a frozen food compartment and
3 a fresh food compartment, the door being associated with
4 the fresh food compartment.

1 **Claim 7 (original):** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein
2 the door sensor is a switch.

1 **Claim 8 (original):** The apparatus of claim 5, wherein
2 the set period is a set number of on/off cycles of a
3 compressor of the refrigerator.

1 **Claim 9 (original):** The apparatus of claim 8, wherein
2 the set number of on/off cycles is three.

Claim 10 (canceled)

1 **Claim 11 (currently amended):** The A self defrosting
2 refrigerator of claim 10 comprising:
3 a cabinet;
4 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
5 having a first door;

6 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
7 having a second door;
8 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated
9 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;
10 a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment
11 for airflow communication with the second refrigerated
12 compartment;
13 a damper movable between an open position and a closed
14 position for controlling airflow within the duct;
15 a refrigeration apparatus within the cabinet; and
16 a controller for controlling the damper;
17 wherein the controller carries out a damper cleaning
18 operation in which the controller at least partially opens
19 and then at least partially closes the damper a set number
20 of times at a set interval, and
21 wherein the controller carries out the damper cleaning
22 operation prior to energizing an evaporator fan.

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): The-A self defrosting
2 refrigerator of claim 10 further comprising:
3 a cabinet;
4 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
5 having a first door;
6 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
7 having a second door;

8 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated
9 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;
10 a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment
11 for airflow communication with the second refrigerated
12 compartment;
13 a damper movable between an open position and a closed
14 position for controlling airflow within the duct;
15 a refrigeration apparatus within the cabinet;
16 a controller for controlling the damper, wherein the
17 controller carries out a damper cleaning operation in which
18 the controller at least partially opens and then at least
19 partially closes the damper a set number of times at a set
20 interval; and
21 a defrosting apparatus, wherein the controller carries
22 out the damper cleaning operation subsequent to an
23 operation of the defrosting apparatus.

1 Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A self defrosting
2 refrigerator ~~of claim 10 further comprising:~~
3 a cabinet;
4 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
5 having a first door;
6 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
7 having a second door;
8 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated
9 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

10 a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment
11 for airflow communication with the second refrigerated
12 compartment;
13 a damper movable between an open position and a closed
14 position for controlling airflow within the duct;
15 a refrigeration apparatus within the cabinet;
16 a controller for controlling the damper, wherein the
17 controller carries out a damper cleaning operation in which
18 the controller at least partially opens and then at least
19 partially closes the damper a set number of times at a set
20 interval; and
21 a defrosting apparatus, wherein the controller carries
22 out the damper cleaning operation between an operation of
23 the defrosting apparatus and a subsequent consecutive
24 energizing of the evaporator fan.

1 **Claim 14 (currently amended):** The A self defrosting
2 refrigerator of claim 10 comprising:
3 a cabinet;
4 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
5 having a first door;
6 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
7 having a second door;
8 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated
9 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

10 a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment
11 for airflow communication with the second refrigerated
12 compartment;
13 a damper movable between an open position and a closed
14 position for controlling airflow within the duct;
15 a refrigeration apparatus within the cabinet; and
16 a controller for controlling the damper;
17 wherein the controller carries out a damper cleaning
18 operation in which the controller at least partially opens
19 and then at least partially closes the damper a set number
20 of times at a set interval, and
21 wherein during the cleaning operation the damper is
22 moved from a fully open position to a fully closed
23 position.

Claim 15 (canceled)

1 **Claim 16 (currently amended):** A damper cleaning
2 apparatus for a two compartment refrigerator having a
3 damper for controlling airflow between compartments, the
4 damper cleaning apparatus comprising:
5 a damper drive mechanism for opening and closing the
6 damper; and
7 a controller for controlling the damper drive
8 mechanism wherein the controller carries out a cleaning
9 operation by at least partially opening and then partially

10 closing the damper a set number of times at a set interval,
11 wherein the controller carries out the damper cleaning
12 operation prior to an operation of the an evaporator fan of
13 the refrigerator.

1 **Claim 17 (currently amended):** A damper cleaning
2 apparatus for a two compartment refrigerator having a
3 damper for controlling airflow between compartments, the
4 damper cleaning apparatus comprising:

5 a damper drive mechanism for opening and closing the
6 damper; and

7 a controller for controlling the damper drive
8 mechanism wherein the controller caries out a cleaning
9 operation by at least partially opening and then partially
10 closing the damper a set number of times at a set interval,
11 wherein the controller carries our the damper cleaning
12 operation subsequent to a defrost operation of the
13 refrigerator.

Claim 18 (canceled)

1 **Claim 19 (previously presented):** A method for
2 cleaning a damper in a refrigerator comprising steps of:
3 at least partially opening the damper;
4 following the step of opening, waiting for a set
5 period and then at least partially closing the damper;

6 repeating the steps of at least partially opening and
7 waiting a set number of times; and
8 initiating a defrosting operation of the refrigerator
9 prior to the step of opening.

1 **Claim 20 (previously presented):** A method for
2 cleaning a damper in a refrigerator comprising steps of:
3 at least partially opening the damper;
4 following the step of opening, waiting for a set
5 period and then at least partially closing the damper;
6 repeating the steps of at least partially opening and
7 waiting a set number of times; and
8 commencing a cooling operation of the refrigeration
9 apparatus following the step of repeating.

1 **Claim 21 (previously presented):** The refrigerator of
2 claim 1, wherein the controller opens the damper during an
3 off cycle when the second refrigerated compartment requires
4 cooling.

1 **Claim 22 (previously presented):** A refrigerator
2 comprising:
3 a cabinet;
4 a first refrigerated compartment within the cabinet
5 having a door;
6 a second refrigerated compartment within the cabinet;

7 a dividing wall separating the first refrigerated
8 compartment from the second refrigerated compartment;

9 a duct connecting the first refrigerated compartment
10 for airflow communication with the second refrigerated
11 compartment;

12 a damper movable between an open position and a closed
13 position for controlling airflow within the duct;

14 a refrigeration apparatus having a refrigeration cycle
15 being measured from a first starting of the refrigeration
16 apparatus to a second consecutive starting of the
17 refrigeration apparatus, and an off cycle being a time
18 within said refrigeration cycle during which the
19 refrigeration apparatus is not operating;

20 a controller for controlling the damper; and

21 a door sensor connected to the controller for
22 detecting when the door is open;

23 wherein if the controller determines that the door
24 been opened during a set number of prior refrigeration
25 cycles, the controller opens the damper when the second
26 refrigerated compartment requires cooling.